

1:1 Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why the focus on ICT and Macs at Mater Christi?

The new West Australian Curriculum requires students to develop a sound ICT capability in order to appropriately access, create and communicate information and ideas, solve problems and work collaboratively in all learning areas at school, and in their lives beyond school as ethical global citizens. The Melbourne Declaration on the Educational Goals for Young Australians (MCEETYA2008) recognises that in a digital age, and with rapid and continuing changes in the ways that people share, use, develop and communicate with ICT, young people need to be highly skilled in its use. To participate in a knowledge-based economy and to be empowered within a technologically sophisticated society now and into the future, students need the knowledge, skills and confidence to make ICT work for them at school, at home, at work and in their communities.



One of the primary reasons for a 1:1 program is to allow teachers to modify and differentiate the curriculum for individual students and groups of students. This means that a child's learning can become far more personalised to their specific needs. Macs as a tool, are fast and intuitive, interactive and multimodal, and they support the rapid communication and representation of knowledge to many audiences and its adaptation in different contexts. They give students the opportunity to transform the ways that they think and learn and give them greater control over how, where and when they learn.

2. What is the current situation?

Teachers and students currently share leased Macs, which are always in demand by classroom teachers and by specialist classes, resulting in each class having limited access. In a 1:1 program teachers can rely upon each child having their own device during learning time. Specific programs and tasks that meet a child's needs are able to be set up and settings maintained for your child. It is cost prohibitive for schools to be able to fund a device for each student, which is why parent funded programs are now being rolled out in primary schools and high schools in Australia and across the world.

3. Why 1:1 with Year 4-6 children?

Our younger students from K-Yr3 have access to shared banks of iPads and Macs (and Apple TVs) which introduce them to a variety of technological skills and ideas. The iPads are used as part of group rotations for literacy and numeracy skill development, and they use them to record and to create. In the Early Years we have an emphasis on developmental play and immersing children in rich opportunities for developing important social/emotional skills and good oral language. Students from Years 4-6 are old enough to be able to manage their own device with the support of their classroom teacher. Having access to their own individual device gives students opportunities to maximise learning opportunities by always having the device available. They will be able to use the same device at school and at home. The Macs work best as a single user device and they provide opportunities for personalised, student-centred learning. Your child having their own device also allows for a level of parental involvement in learning not previously possible.

4. Why are we not proposing iPads?

Macs were introduced in 2013 and staff and students are very familiar and confident with using them. The Mac runs a fully-fledged desktop-style operating system, built for power and flexibility compared to the iPad's mobile operating system, built for simplicity, convenience and mobility. We believe that our choice of a desktop environment will allow our students the flexibility to access, create, and communicate far more broadly than on a mobile device, which is limited by the presence or absence of "an App for that." In short, we wish to empower students to think bigger and create better.



5. Why is the program only for Year 4 in 2016?

This helps us to stage the rollout slowly and methodically, ensuring that there is adequate support for teachers, students and parents as they adapt to planning, using and managing the new technology with a whole class of students.

6. What ICT devices will Years 5 and 6 have access to in 2016?

Students will still have shared access to a bank of leased MacBooks and iPad bundles.

Teaching and Learning

1. How will we know how the Macs are being used in the classroom?

By implementing a 1:1 Mac program your child will be bringing their Macs between home and school on a daily basis. This provides unprecedented access to your child's learning and affords you as parents the opportunity to become more actively involved in your child's education.

2. Will my son/daughter stop writing?

No. The development of fine motor and handwriting skills are still considered important. While Year 12 exams continue to be handwritten, handwriting will continue to be taught in primary schools. But who knows into the future?



3. Have teachers been trained on how to use the Macs in the classroom?

Teachers at Mater Christi have had, and will continue to have access to rich and ongoing professional learning opportunities and support from many internal and external sources. We consider teacher knowledge, understanding, skill, vision and openness to being a life-long learner vital to the success of a 1:1 program.

4. What programs/apps will be required and who will pay for them?

The school will identify a core set of programs and these will be loaded onto each device prior to coming home.

5. Can the apps be installed on other Macs, iPhone or iPods?

Apps purchased by the family become the property of the family and can be loaded onto any other device that uses the same Apple ID. Most Mac Apps can however, only be used on Macs, not IOS devices.

6. Will my child be able to install other apps/programs and games?

No, the purchase and installation of all apps, games, music etc must be made with an Apple ID, which requires a password. The owner of the Apple ID must be at least 13 years of age and it is expected that this is a parent. Parents therefore have control and security over the Apple ID password and what is installed on the Macs. Music and movies are allowed for academic and recreational reasons, provided copyright obligations and ratings are met and that parents take full responsibility for this process. Downloading music, games and videos from the internet during school hours is prohibited except when directed by a teacher. If software is required by a class for academic purposes, the school will purchase licences and make arrangements for the installation of the software for student use.

7. Will students be able to store music on the Macs?

Yes, students can store their music on the Macs. Again however, this requires the use of the **Apple ID**, which the parent must have full control over.

8. What happens if inappropriate apps/programs or music are on the Macs?

Each day the child's Macbook will connect to the school server. ICT staff are able to scan macs for inappropriate use, and staff will contact parents directly if any apps, programs or music on the Macs are deemed inappropriate and ask for these to be removed. Parents and staff will need to work together to ensure that our ICT Policy and Conditions of Use Policy are respected and adhered to. Educational applications will be considered the priority on the Macs and the school reserves the right to request that any games or apps which interfere with learning, or with the running of the device be removed.

9. Will students be able to use Facebook on the device?

Users of Facebook have to be 13 years of age or older, therefore Facebook is not be used on the device. Access to Facebook will be blocked at school.

10. Will students play on the MacBooks during breaks instead of going outside to play for recess?

No, Macbooks are for use during teaching and learning time and during breaks students will go outside to play. From time to time, under teacher supervision, students may be permitted to use their laptop to complete work during a break time.

11. How much time will students use the laptops in the classroom?

The amount of time the MacBooks will be used will vary from day to day at the discretion of the teacher and depending on the task involved. The amount of use depends on individual student need, as well as the learning activity or project at hand. There is the potential to use the MacBooks for all subject areas including specialist subjects such as Science, Drama and Music. However, teachers will decide when and how much the laptops will be used within any given lesson and per week based upon individual and classroom needs. Parents can be assured that the mac will be used as part of a 'balanced diet' to maximise their child's educational outcomes, without compromising the development of other important learning opportunities and skillset. The use of laptops in



lessons is very task-specific, some tasks lend themselves to the use of the laptop, others don't. This means that the laptops come out when and if required. The MacBooks will provide additional support for student learning, and therefore students will be supervised, as they would be for any learning activity. The issues of screen time limits will be discussed closer to roll out of the devices.

Device Usage

1. Will my child's internet usage be monitored at school?

Students can expect their MacBook to be periodically inspected and monitored for appropriate usage. School personnel may request access to the browser history and/or caches as well as any and all files belonging to the student as well as stored on the school's server. Students and parents need to be aware that files stored locally or on server sites are not private. Teacher vigilance and student reporting will also be important in monitoring student usage and behaviour online, and student education has and will continue to reinforce expectations and strategies for appropriate and safe behaviour online. Students can and do occasionally come across inappropriate content. We believe that providing them with strategies to deal with such occasions in a safe and supportive environment is preferable to them dealing with the issue in unsupported circumstances.

2. How will the school regulate student use of the Internet at home?

The school is unable to regulate student internet usage at home, which means that parents need to remain vigilant and informed and have good family rules in place. We encourage parents to be aware of what their child is doing on any Internet enabled device (computer, Macs, iPhone, iPod) and strongly encourage the use of these devices in family areas only (not in private areas such as bedrooms). We will discuss ways that families can regulate student use at the Parent session next year.

3. How much time will my child spend using the Macs each day?

The Macs are a tool to be used at the discretion of the teacher throughout the day. With any learning experience, the teacher is best placed to decide which tool will be most effective in meeting the intended learning outcome. Macs are not intended to be a replacement or a substitute for any of the more conventional tools teachers have at their disposal. It is the school's belief that any well-rounded approach to education involves balanced access to a variety of tools. Macs simply increase the number of tools at the teacher's disposal and are only used when they are the best tool for the job.

Payment and Purchase

1. Cost of the Macs?

The Macs are provided to the students at the start of the year and the leasing costs are included on term fees across three years.

2. What happens if the device is damaged, lost or stolen?

An insurance excess applies to each claim which must be paid by the parent before the device can be repaired or replaced. This excess is expected to be approximately \$150 per claim. The school will provide access to a device in school while the Mac is being repaired.

3. Is a case included?

A case for the Mac is included in the cost and to protect the Macs it should remain in the case at all times when not being used.

4. Can I purchase the device upfront?

No. It is important that all devices are consistent across the school and by having a Master Lease Agreement, we are able to get a significant discount by bulk ordering the devices. This cost can then be passed on to families.

5. My child already has a Mac. Can they use this?

No. We will be leasing new 11inch Macbook Airs and home MacBooks are not configured to the school network, can be a source of viruses and are often not enabled with the licensed software. Home MacBooks may not be licensed to use the school image and maintenance issues may not be resolved in an appropriate time frame.



Technical

1. What is the weight of the Mac?

The Macs weigh 1.08 kilos without a cover. A cover will add additional weight but is essential for the protection of the device. Thus the Mac is light enough to carry home each night.

2. How do we backup the data and apps on the device?

Data on the device can be backed up via iTunes on a computer at home or via Apple's iCloud service over the internet. Information on backing up the Macs will be covered next year in a parent information session.

3. How will it be protected from damage to and from school?

Students must keep the Macs in its case. The school and parents will need to educate students on the care of the Macs to minimise damage.

4. Will the battery last all day?

The MacBook has up to 10 hour battery life and our experience is that this is more than adequate for a day's use in the classroom. There is an expectation that the Macs will be charged at home overnight and brought to school **fully charged each day**.

5. What happens if the device stops working or if a student forgets to bring it to school?

Although the computers selected will be robust and reliable, the reality is that sometime things will go wrong. All laptops are covered by a three year warranty. Any hardware fault is covered under this warranty. More importantly, the school will have a small bank of laptops that will be swapped in and out of service when a computer requires a repair. Macs purchased under the school lease will be covered by the AppleCare warranty. If the device stops working, then the student will be provided with a loan Mac (for at school use) while the school assesses the issue and if need be, has the Mac repaired or replaced under the warranty.

6. Why does the school need parents to have insurance cover on these computers?

The current school contents policies do not cover the use of the computer by a student outside of school grounds, hence the need to take out a separate insurance policy. The school needs to establish the insurance arrangements as the computer must remain the property of the school for a period of 3 years. A standard excess of \$150 applies, an amount that is charged to individual families if damage outside the policy happens.

7. What happens if the child's laptop doesn't work during the school holidays?

They can take it into any Apple store for warranty repair. If it's damaged however, they will need to wait until the school is open before proceeding.

8. What if a Mac breaks down in term time?

If a Macbook breaks down in term time, families bring the device to school. We log the job through the Winthrop portal WASP. They then action it from there. If a \$150 excess payment is needed for insurance, the parent must pay WASP directly.

9. Are the computers covered by insurance for damage, loss or theft?

Insurance will cover the laptop from all non-warrantable damage, loss or theft at school, home or in transit. Any replacement of a laptop will be on a like for like basis. A standard excess of \$150 applies.

10. With the warranty, is it our responsibility to deliver the machine to the supplier for repair?

No. The school will make arrangements for this.

11. What happens when a student leaves the school?

Like a library book, the student will be asked to return the MacBook and as a new student arrives they take on the remaining lease.

12. What happens when the laptops are 3 years old?

The MacBook is returned to the school and we return them to the supplier. There is also an option for parents to purchase the device for a 'Bubble Payment' at the end of the lease, which will be calculated at fair market value.